

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT AND ACQUISITION 103 ARMY PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC 20310-0103

JUN 1 8 1998

SARD-PP

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, U.S. ARMY AVIATION & MISSILE COMMAND, ATTN: AMSAM-AC, REDSTONE ARSENAL. AL 35898-5000

SUBJECT: Request for Class Deviation to FAR 37.110(a) and Proposed Revision to FAR 37.1107(a)

Reference memorandum, USAMCOM, AMSAM-AC, April 7, 1998. Subject as above.

I hereby grant a class deviation to FAR 37.110(a), authorizing the omission of the clause at FAR 52.237-1, Site visit, in solicitation for services to be performed on government installations.

This deviation authority is assigned number 98-DEV-5 and is granted pursuant to Director of Defense Procurement memorandum, dated September 30, 1997, subject Extension of Test Waiver Authority and shall remain in effect until June 30, 2003 or until the FAR is changed (whichever occurs first).

Point of contact for this action is Mrs. Esther Morse, DSN: 761-1040.

John R. Conklin

Director

Procurement & Industrial Base policy

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY UNITED STATES ARMY AVIATION AND MISSILE COMMAND REDSTONE ARSENAL, ALABAMA 35898-5000

17 APR 1998

AMSAM-AC (715)

MEMORANDUM THRU Headquarters, Department of the Army.
ATTN: SARD-PP, 103 Army Pentagon.
Washington, DC 20310-0103

FOR Director, DAR Council, OUSD(A&T), 3062 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-3062

SUBJECT: Request for Class Deviation to FAR 37.110 a) and Proposed Revision to FAR 37.110(a)

1. Enclosed for your review and determination of acceptability is a request for class deviation to FAR 37.110(a) to allow the omission of FAR 52.237-1, Site Visit. The justification and description of the proposed class deviation is at enclosure 1. This is a request for a class deviation for the next five years and a proposed revision to the FAR.

2. If further information is required, contact Ms. Shirley Childers, DSN 788-9431.

MOVSE

Encl

EMMITT E. GIBSON

Head of the Contracting Activity

CLASS DEVIATION TO FAR 37.110(a) AND PROPOSED REVISION OF FAR 37.110(a) TO ALLOW THE OMISSION OF FAR 52.237-1, SITE VISIT

I. PROBLEM:

- A. FAR 37.110(a) mandates that "[t]he contracting officer shall insert the provision at FAR 52.237-1. \$ite Visit, in solicitations for services to be performed on Government installations, unless the solicitation is for construction." A class deviation to FAR 37.110(a) is requested for a period of five years. Paragraph (b of FAR 1.401 best categorizes the deviation.
- B. The U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command AMCOM) has numerous ongoing, well-established requirements for which conducting a site visit would not benefit contractors or the quality of their proposals. Conducting a site visit would increase administrative lead time and cost for the members of the acquisition work force, requiring activities, and contractors.
- C. During preparation of solicitation DAAH01-97-R-0172, an ongoing, well-established requirement for Systems, Cost, Risk, and Program Evaluation Support, the AMCOM legal office required the inclusion of FAR 52.237-1 due to FAR requirements. It was determined that conducting a site visit would not be beneficial to the contractors or the government for this acquisition and a one-time deviation was processed in order to allow the omission of the solicitation provision. Approval for this deviation was received on 25 Jun 97. No approval for a class deviation has been received previously.

II. RECOMMENDATION:

To add "when a site visit will be conducted or if the contracting officer determines the inclusion of the provision would otherwise be beneficial" to FAR 37.110(a) to read as follows:

"The contracting officer shall insert the provision at 52.237-1, Site Visit, in solicitations for services to be performed on Government installations when a site visit will be conducted or if the contracting officer determines the inclusion of the provision would otherwise be beneficial, unless the solicitation is for construction."

A copy of the FAR text of the existing coverage, conformed to include the proposed additions, is enclosed at TAB A.

III. DISCUSSION:

The U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command has numerous ongoing, well-established requirements. The places of performance for these requirements vary according to the services being performed. The primary place of performance for many of these requirements is at the contractor's facility, with only a small portion of the effort being performed on Redstone Arsenal. Additionally, the government facilities to be utilized are standard government office space containing merely desks, telephones, and computers. For these acquisitions, conducting a site visit would not benefit contractors or the quality of their proposals. Conducting a site visit would increase administrative lead time and cost for the members of the acquisition work force, requiring activities, and contractors.

The one-time deviation, described above, allowed AMCOM to avoid increased administrative lead time and cost of the acquisition. For this acquisition, the extent of the onsite work consisted of space allocation for four 4 contractor personnel to be housed in a government building no more than 400 square feet) for the period of the contract and requirements to be specified in technical direction orders. Conducting a site visit for this solicitation would have involved increased cost for members of the acquisition work force, requiring activity, and contractors for their participation in the site visit.

IV. COLLATERALS:

Publication in the Federal Register and public comment are not required for the requested FAR deviation due to an insignificant impact on the contracting community.

V. DEVIATIONS:

The recommended revision constitutes a FAR deviation and a proposed FAR revision.

37.110 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses.

a) The contracting officer shall insert the provision at 52.237-1, Site Visit, in solicitations for services to be performed on Government installations [when a site visit will be conducted or if the contracting officer determines the inclusion of the provision would otherwise be beneficial], unless the solicitation is for construction.